2022 We're Grateful for You
Louis D. Brown Peace Institute Gratitude Report
Walkthrough of 2022

This Gratitude Report is dedicated to survivors of homicide victims and all the loved ones who have died this past year.
OUR MISSION: To serve as a center of Healing, Teaching and Learning for families and communities impacted by murder, trauma, grief and loss.

OUR BELIEF: Families impacted by murder deserve to be treated with dignity and compassion, regardless of the circumstances.

OUR VISION: To create and sustain an environment where all families can live in peace and all people are valued.


OUR MODEL: Grounded in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s social-ecological framework, is that interventions are needed at multiple levels in order to interrupt cycles of violence. The LDBPI’s framework starts with families and radiates out to communities and society.
Dear Friends of Peace,

I am proud to share the incredible ways you have helped the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute (LDBPI) transform society’s response to homicide in 2022 and, most importantly, the remarkable impact you have helped us make on the lives of families and communities impacted by murder, trauma, grief and loss.

In the three decades since Louis’ death, you and the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute have created pathways to ever-lasting cycles of peace. Together we have empowered survivors to become architects of their own healing, welcomed incarcerated and returning citizens with resources and services, and amplified the power of our youth, Generation Peace, to lead us now and in the future.

As ever, I am guided by the Seven Principles of Peace: Faith, Unity, Hope, Forgiveness, Justice, Courage and Love. I deeply appreciate your generous gifts, which power the Seven Ps that sustain our mission now and into the future: People, Place, Programs, Policy, Products, Profit and Philanthropy. Thank you. It is your support, your love and your commitment that honor the principles that power our work.

With appreciation and hope for our future, I offer my gratitude and my love to each of you joining me on the path to peace.

Chaplain Clementina M. Chéry
President & CEO
Note From the Board Chair

Dear Friends,

Serving as Chair of the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute is an honor. My term began in March 2022 and as I contemplate on the work carried out during this past year, I am filled with gratitude, hope and joy. I thank our amazing team, fellow Board members and community of partners whose hearts and enormous generosity help nourish our work; consistent to the mission we have kept true since our founding.

As I sit down to write this letter, I keep reflecting on the depth of our strength and how we, as Directors, hold space within our organization. We accompany our LDBPI team and approach the work we are called to do each day with compassion, competence and conviction rooted in our passion and perspective.

Ours is a small and mighty Board, and I want to thank my fellow Directors for their passion and dedication. We have a Board Treasurer, Beth Dill, whose expertise is solidifying our financial structures for all of us to map out meaningful programming and services that support our team and mission. We have a Board Clerk, Cheryl Lang, whose public health background and perspective supports our work as active participants of the community with deep heart and care.

Together, our Board is committed to imagining and transforming what Board governance looks like, should look like and could look like from here. In the coming months and years we will be actively seeking and inviting new members to join our Board.

The future is bright thanks to you.

With genuine gratitude, upholding every single one of our Principles of Peace,

Cecilia M. Cardesa
Board Chair

Board Treasurer – Beth Dill
Board Chair – Cecilia M. Cardesa
Board Clerk – Cheryl Lang
365 Days of Peace

Cycles of Peace Mural Painting
365 Days of Peace

Peace B'Que 2022

Peace B'Que 2022

Peace B'Que 2022

26th Annual MDW4P

Peace B'Que 2022
365 Days of Peace

26th Annual MDW4P

Mindfulness 2022

Peace Play Training 2022

Office of Victim Services Seeking Solutions Summit

Peace Play Training 2022
Provide emotional and practical support for families in the first 24 to 72 hours after a homicide happens, using *The Survivors’ Burial and Resource Guide: A Step-by-Step Workbook for Regaining Control*, and provide ongoing advocacy and referral support services.

**Survivor Outreach Services (SOS)**

We would like to send our sincere thanks for your kindness and generosity. Our family is truly grateful for you printing our programs and making the buttons. You all helped make a stressful situation more at ease. Thanks so much!" - Survivor Family

- 118 new families met with our Survivor Support Coordinators in the aftermath of a homicide, suicide or overdose.
- 508 survivors received ongoing case management and referrals to services needed upon request.
- 10 survivors relocated into temporary and permanent housing.
- 5 court meetings were attended as a support to survivors.
- 45 Peace Play in Urban Settings sessions were held for survivors.
In 2022, there were 168 shootings with 30 homicides in the City of Boston. Reflecting on the national trend, homicides are up over 20%.

However, what is often not covered is the people left in the wake — for every homicide victim there are an estimated 7 to 10 close relatives and friends left behind, in addition to neighbors and co-workers — and the ensuing trauma that plagues those close to homicide victims and generations to come.

A part of our work is serving families across the State of Massachusetts ensuring that survivors receive effective and equitable care through our Homicide Response Toolkit.

This year, 118 new families received and were served using this Toolkit. Making sure that no family is left “empty handed physically or within their souls” trying to navigate life without their loved one.

Appreciation Letter from a Survivor:

I have known my survivor support coordinator since my son passed away, God Rest His Soul. Not a day goes by without me thinking of him. It is hard and I have been struggling a lot as I suffer from PTSD and anxiety among other chronic illnesses but without my survivor support coordinator I don't know where I would be.

She has been supporting me with words of wisdom. She has been there for me and still is. She has helped me keep my sanity when I'm having a rough day. She advocated for me to be put in a hotel for a week by the LDBPI.

The times I call my survivor support coordinator, she doesn't judge me at all, she's just very supportive and tries anything she possibly can to help me. She always comes through, and she knows what to say to calm me down. I truly thank and appreciate everything she does and is doing for me & my family. She's a keeper.
Healing Support Services

Healing Support Services (HSS) provide ongoing healing and safe spaces for survivors of homicide, suicide and overdose victims, families of incarcerated/formerly incarcerated loved ones. These spaces are a non-judgement space for families no matter their circumstances.

In 2022,

- 61 individuals attended Support Groups & Workshops.
- 8 individuals participated in Mindfulness.
- 20 individuals participated in Wholistic Healing.
- 5 girls participated in Girls Leadership Academy.
- 5 individuals participated in the Sibling Survivors Group.
- 10 Healing Support Services Ambassadors joined the team.
Survivor Stories of Healing

Survivor Tracey Hunter came to the Healing & Recovery Support Group after the tragic death of her son Tremani Steven Hunter in 2021. Since her son’s death, she has participated in various healing programs and workshops offered by the LDBPI.

This year, Tracey became a Healing Support Services Ambassador and completed our facilitator training for survivors interested in starting their own support groups and workshops. After realizing that her daughter needed support as a sibling survivor, she took on the role of co-facilitator for our new Healing & Recovery Support Group for Siblings 18+. Every week, Tracey leads with the principle of Courage.

Jay’Lana Johnson senior at Boston Arts Academy and member of the Girls Leadership Academy (GLA) was first introduced to the LDBPI at our Annual Mother’s Day Walk for Peace when she was only 3 years old.

In 2022, we were honored to have her lead our 26th Annual Mother’s Day Walk for Peace alongside other members of GLA. Throughout the year, Jay’Lana has worked to support the LDBPI team in many capacities. In the spring, she provided support to the Development team by handwriting hundreds of thank you notes to donors and provided administrative support to our SOS team. Generation Peace is our future and Jay’lana’s leadership and service exemplifies just that.
Community Reentry Services Program (CRSP)

Community Re-Entry Services (CRSP) is a reintegration program that creates a pipeline from prison to progress for men in Massachusetts correctional facilities. The program helps reunite participants with their families and provides wraparound services that include: employment, education, mentorship, housing and diverse counseling services.

A comprehensive three-year program designed to help men in Massachusetts correctional facilities make the transition from incarceration back to the community. The goal of the program is to help them cultivate a new mind-set as they transition to a new lifestyle, to reunite them with their family as they heal together, and to find meaningful careers and become an active member of their community.

In 2022,
- 3 mentors were added to the program.
- 17 men participated in CRSP.
- All participants are currently employed.
Training and Education

Our trainings instill the value of peace and equip providers, educators, faith leaders, criminal justice/public health professionals and institutional stakeholders to respond equitably and effectively to families dealing with murder, trauma, grief and loss.

In 2022,

- 412 people were trained in our methods and approach.
- 4 states received training in LDBPI’s Best Practices
- 17 Massachusetts cities received training in LDBPI’s Best Practices
- 152 youth from Generation Peace trained
Office of Victim Services Seeking Solutions Summit

In September, our CEO and President, Chaplain Clementina Chéry, had the honor of being the keynote speaker for the Office of Victim Services (OVS) Seeking Solutions Summit in Albany NY. Her speech centered around the true meaning of restorative justice which is interrupting cycles of violence on both sides and teaching the value of peace.

She reflects, “It is empowering to share space with those who have that same passion: to center ‘Peace’ within our halls and systems of justice. Gatherings like this also serve as a worthy reminder: a more peaceful, more just world requires the work of many.”

Oftentimes, those who are working within our systems of justice must do their work strictly by the book. Many do not feel the latitude to show up and be themselves. Thus, it is remarkable to witness the power in providing space for people to be human. When providers experience transformative moments within their own lives, it enables them to incorporate those skills into their work.”
NBC Media Briefing

During the 22nd Annual Survivors of Homicide Victims Awareness Month (SHVAM), we were honored to train a room full of reporters and executives from NBC 10 on Best Practices for reporting on homicides. In our time together, participants learned about the impact of reporting on survivors’ healing and their access to critical resources for funeral and burial.

The NBC team were super receptive to the training and worked with us to brainstorm ways their reporting could provide support and respect to families and communities impacted by murder. Through this we were able to produce a PSA graphic that will be used when reporting on homicide to guide families to the critical services of the LDBPI.
We advocate for policies that promote dignity and compassion for all families impacted by murder. This year, our Inform, Influence and Impact Grant funded many amazing survivor led events ranging from fashion shows to support groups. In November, grant recipient, Spot for Life Foundation, hosted a series of kite making workshops for survivor families. On the National Day of Remembrance for Homicide Victims, families gathered together to fly kites in memory of their murdered loved ones.

In 2022,
● 5 grants for the year totaling $25,000. The 5 grants were funded by the Galen Gibson Fund, which is another survivor organization, showing how a survivor organization is helping other survivor organizations!
● 9 sponsorships for survivor led events
● 31 survivor-led events during National Survivors of Homicide Victims Awareness Month

Peace B’Que
● Through the Providers Network 21 organizations hosted resource tables for the 250+ people that came and celebrated.
● 7 elected and city officials attended.
Advocacy and Awareness

26th Annual Mother’s Day Walk for Peace

Our 26th Annual Mother’s Day Walk for Peace (MDW4P) was a huge success and with your help we surpassed our goal of $600,000 and raised $607,364 to ensure that families and communities impacted by murder, trauma, grief and loss have the resources they need to help them on their healing journeys.

Last year, 5,000 people walked in person and 3,159 people participated online. We are so grateful for the 144 teams that joined us and walked with team banners, posters of their loved ones and customized shirts with impactful messages. The Annual Mother’s Day Walk for Peace was a collaborative effort and we appreciate the efforts of The Rendon Group, NECN/NBC 10 and CuroErgoSum Consulting in making this Walk a reality. To our teams, walkers, co-chairs, and sponsors, because of your leadership, commitment, and hard work the 26th Annual MDW4P was a huge success. Thank you!
Advocacy and Awareness

Sponsors of the 26th Annual Mother’s Day Walk for Peace

Josie Greene & Glenn Asch

King’s Chapel

The Boston Globe

Stanley N. Griffith & Ann E. Schauffler

Rick & Gitte Shea

Moms Demand Action
For Gun Sense in America
Peace Partners

Barr Foundation

City Life Vida Urbana

CITY of BOSTON

Fields Corner Collaborative

King's Chapel

Second Congregational Church of Cohasset
In 2022, we served as a fiscal sponsor to Dee Dee’s Cry, MBK617, Art Inspires Me, Java With Jimmy, James “Jimmy” Flint Scholarship Fund, Roxbury Unity Parade, Voices of Liberation, One Love Sports Academy, Inside the Sun.
Our Staff

Clementina Chéry
President & CEO

Danielle Bennett
Policy and Network Manager

Stefany K. Boston
Survivor Outreach & Support Manager

Kathryn Byrnes
Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator

Evandissa Cabral
Survivor Case Coordinator

Winston Commock Jr.
IT Specialist

Heather Dabreu
Senior Survivor Support Coordinator

Elaina DeStefano
Growth & Sustainability Manager

Alexandra Chéry Dorrelus
Co-Executive Director

Shaulita Isla Francis
Communications & Marketing Manager

Kali Geddes
Healing Support Services Coordinator

Shamika Gumes
Survivor Support Coordinator

Ruth Henry
Holistic Childcare Specialist

Janice Johnson
Healing Support Services Manager

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Our Staff

Milton Jones
Director of Reentry Services

Jenine Lindsey
Grants Manager

Tashema Lindsey
Board Liaison

Taylor Lee
Reentry Services Coordinator

Damaris Ortiz
Survivor Outreach Services Coordinator

Alethea Pratt
Administrative and Human Resources Manager

Kyle Metzger
Facilities Coordinator

Beth Nagy
Assistant to Co-Executive Directors

Kamal Oliver
Digital Marketing Coordinator

Damaris Ortiz
Network and Policy Coordinator

Rachel Rodrigues
Assistant to CEO

Mario Rodrigues
Administrative Assistant

Njeri Rue
Survivor Outreach Services Coordinator

Shakita Stafford
Director of Reentry Services

Portia Williams
Facilities Coordinator

Pace McConkie Jr.
Administrative Assistant

Milton Jones
Co-Executive Director

Beth Nagy
Administrative Assistant

Kamal Oliver
Reentry Services Coordinator

Damaris Ortiz
Survivor Outreach Services Coordinator

Alethea Pratt
Administrative and Human Resources Manager

Rachel Rodrigues
Co-Executive Director

Mario Rodrigues
Facilities Coordinator

Njeri Rue
Assistant to CEO

Shakita Stafford
Finance Manager

Portia Williams
Administrative Assistant
From Volunteer to Staff: Kali’s Story

Kali Geddes got her start at the LDBPI volunteering with our Healing Support Services Department. The moment Kali’s resume came to our Healing and Support Services Manager, Janice Johnson, she knew Kali was the perfect fit to be the Reach Out and Touch Volunteer, a new role that would provide additional support to survivors during our Healing and Recovery Support Groups.

Kali took on the volunteer position and instantly made an impact on the survivors she worked with through her compassionate and gentle manner. Kali was consistent with checking in on survivors and put in the time and effort that allowed them to feel safe with her. Janice constantly received phone calls from members of the group sharing their fondness of her. Kali’s relationship with HSS became so important to the survivors that she was offered a full-time position on the team in her current role of Healing and Support Services Coordinator.

From Peace Fellow to Staff: Kathryn’s Story

Kathryn Byrnes started at the LDBPI as a Peace Fellow through the College of Social Innovation in 2021, her junior year of college. Working alongside Janice Johnson and Elaina DeStefano, Kathryn worked to produce the Wholistic Healing Facilitators Guide in a semester-long project. Eventually, she transitioned to the training team where she spent a summer working to assist the Training and Events Coordinator with planning and coordination of training and events. At the conclusion of her time as a Peace Fellow intern, Kathryn returned to school to complete her final semester of college.

In February of 2022, Kathryn returned to the LDBPI, but this time as a full-time staff member as the Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator. The mission and culture of the LDBPI brought Kathryn back to the organization and since her return, she has worked with the training team to continue expanding our Training and Education Department.
Our Volunteers

Anne Morad
Bunny Meyer
Nelly McCray
Mary Dean
Rebecca Bass
Ann Haaser
Becky Siebens
Brittany Moscoso
Shonda Sumpter
Renee Hines
Bailey Magno
Sally Cheek
Ann Willever

Karin Johnsen
Jaylana Johnson
Loreen Benson
Veenit Singh
Asher Cohen
Barbara McQueen
Esther Archer
Google
Harvard College

Our Peace Fellows

Kevin Whalen; Healing Support
Gwen Jumper; Peace School
Casandra Silva Cardoso; Communications and Marketing
Carolina Petracca; Healing Support - Clinical
Marc Cawley Bercy; Policy and Advocacy

Rayana Henderson; Marketing
Shamya Gardens; Accounting
Hinda Finaman; Peaceing it Together
Cady Malkemes; Communications and Marketing
Rayana Henderson, Communication and Marketing
2022 Financials

**Income**
- Local, State, Federal Grants & Contracts $1,646,279
- Mother’s Day Walk for Peace $607,364
- Contributions and Donations $778,019
- Earned Income $98,450

**Total Income** $3,130,112

**Expenses**
- Salaries & Benefits $1,866,992
- Occupancy, Maintenance, Technology & Supplies $193,619
- Postage, Mailing & Printing $10,836
- Meetings & Travel $15,305
- Family Support $488,129
- Program Expenses $74,319
- Fundraising & Marketing $117,302
- Consultants $288,196
- Legal & Insurance $6,611

**Total Expenses** $3,061,510
Thank you to our Donors!

We could not do our work without our donors. THANK YOU to all of you who partner with us to serve those impacted by murder, trauma, grief and loss. Revenue from all sources increased over 20%, allowing us to continue to fund the work we do each day.

“We have great respect for the LDBPI and its very important work. The organization, its team, and its mission are critical.” - Howard and Candice Wolk

“The Devonshire Foundation is proud to partner with the LDBPI. Our three-year commitment will help LDBPI achieve vital goals for growth so it can bring its healing services and products to even more people whose lives are impacted by the tragedy of homicide. We know that our investment in LDBPI’s long-term vision is making a meaningful impact in the communities they serve. We continue to learn from LDBPI as they lead communities through trauma and help families heal and find peace.” - Kate Grundy, Executive Director, The Devonshire Foundation
I believe healing the trauma created by white supremacy and poverty is paramount if we want to see violence abate. The multi-prong approach followed by the LDBPI, combining financial and mental health support, with education and a safe place to do the work, seems like a good recipe to both address the violence once it has happened, but also to address its root causes.

I also like the deliberate way you have expanded your programs over time, seeing what works and what does not. I like how your principles of peace seem to be the foundation that help guide your actions. It’s important to me that actions to address violence are rooted in love, but also courage and justice otherwise there cannot be real solutions. I’m very grateful for the work you do as it aligns with my own aspirations for a more compassionate and just world.”

-Philippe Daniel and Bonnie Mioduchoski
Join us on Mother’s Day as we walk to honor and remember the lives of our loved ones who have been murdered. Our goal this year is to raise $600,000 to support families and communities impacted by murder, trauma, grief and loss.

**MOTHER’S DAY, SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2023**

Town Field Park, 1520 Dorchester Ave, Dorchester, MA 02122

- 7:00 AM (Registration)
- 8:00 AM (Program)
- 8:30 AM (Kick off)
- 10:00 AM (Closing Rally)

*Early registration ends March 13, 2023 register early to receive a free t-shirt!*

**REGISTER | START A TEAM | DONATE | SPONSOR**

[www.mothersdaywalk4peace.org](http://www.mothersdaywalk4peace.org)
If true peace is to happen, it will be up to my generation regardless which side of the street they come from.”

- Louis D. Brown
Thank you again for all of your support in 2022!